GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:807
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2001
EXPLORATION OF COAL BED METHANE
A.D.K. JEYASEELAN;ANADI CHARAN SAHU

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has approved the policy of exploration and exploitation of Coal Bed Methane;

(b) if so, the States in which exploration of CBM is extended; and

(c) the funds allocated, if any, for such exploration in different parts of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the first offer of blocks under the Coal Bed Methane (CBM) policy approved by the Government, 7 blocks falling in the states of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan were offered for bidding by private and public sector companies.In response to this, bids for 6 blocks situated in West Bengal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have been received.

(c) As per CBM policy, no investment from Government is required.